

Adding Integers on a Number Line

We can show the addition of integers on a number line by either drawing one or two arrows.

Example 1: $(+4) + (+2) = (+6)$



OR

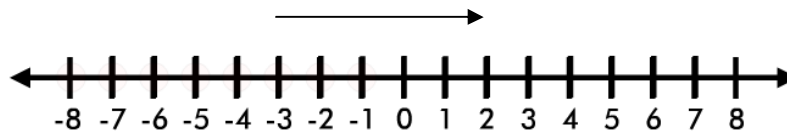


If you are using the two arrow method, the second arrow *always* starts where the first arrow ended.

Case 1: Adding a Positive Integer

Start by plotting the first integer on the number line. To add a **positive** integer, move **right**, or in the positive direction.

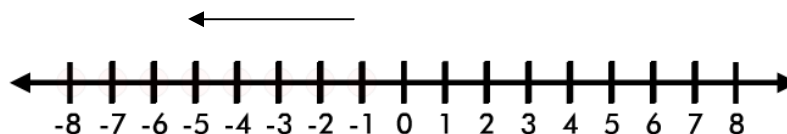
Example 2: $(-3) + (+5)$



Case 2: Adding a Negative Integer

Start by plotting the first integer on the number line. To add a **negative** integer, move **left**, or in the negative direction.

Example 3: $(-1) + (-4)$



Note: If you are using a vertical number line, such as the ones found on thermometers, the following rules apply:

1. If adding a **positive** integer, move **up**, or in the positive direction.
2. If adding a **negative** integer, move **down**, or in the negative direction.